‘Monster’ gets life sentence

Harsh words as judge sends Michael Rafferty to prison PAGE 4

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CHEF JAMIE OLIVER IS FIGHTING OBESITY WITH HIS LATEST EFFORT — FOOD REVOLUTION DAY PAGE 11

SASKATOON metro®

Wednesday, May 16, 2012

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RALLYING AGAINST SINP CHANGES

PAGE 2

Protesters attend a rally at the legislative building on Tuesday against recently announced changes to the provincial immigration policy. Immigration Minister Rob Norris announced the changes on May 2. CARRIE-MAY SIGGINS/METRO REGINA

No chance of survival: TSB official

Rare tragedy. There had been only 16 mid-air crashes in Canada in the last 10 years before Saturday’s fatal collision near St. Brieux

A transport official says marks on the wreckage show that the left wings of two planes touched in a mid-air collision over Saskatchewan.

Peter Hildebrand of the Transportation Safety Board says the aircraft then plummeted to the ground.

“The wreckage came down almost vertically in its final trajectory,” Hildebrand said Tuesday at a briefing in Winnipeg.

He said there’s no way anyone could have survived the impact.

Five people were killed in the collision between a Piper PA-28 and a Lake Buccaneer amphibious plane Saturday near St. Brieux northeast of Saskatoon. The Piper’s three occupants — two men and an 11-year-old boy — were from rural Alberta.

A Regina couple were in the Buccaneer.

Hildebrand described the debris as scattered over several sites in a marsh. “Much of that wreckage is located in and under water.”

He said investigators are sure there was a collision because “some of the wreckage is intermingled.”

Investigators are collecting pieces of the plane for further analysis. They have also gathered information on the weather and the flight plans of the two planes. Those plans indicate the aircraft were probably travelling at a 90-degree angle from each other, Hildebrand said.

There were high scattered clouds and light winds.

Investigators still want to recover flight instruments or electronic equipment that could assist in the investigation. They would also like to interview anyone who may have seen what happened.

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1 NEWS

On the web

Tween blasts banks

The latest tirade against Canada's banking system isn't coming from a leading economist, but from a 12-year-old girl. Posted by her father, Cambridge's Victoria Grant's lectures have been making the web rounds and making headlines. Watch the pint-sized pundit at metronews.ca

Same-sex marriage in retrospect

A U.S man shares his memories of late partner, Thomas Bridegroom, outlining how same-sex marriage could have changed their lives. Shane Bitney Crone's YouTube video detailing their struggles has received more than two million views. Watch at metronews.ca

Mobile news

Barack Obama is holding his own when it comes to pop culture. The U.S. president passed ABC's The View's pop quiz, proving he's keeping up with the Kardashians and knows his superheroes. Scan the code to see if he passed the Fifty Shades of Grey test.

Racial profiling concerns tackled by aboriginal group

Over-representation. SPS chief Clive Weighill says problem is a social issue, not the result of police activity

MORGAN MODJESKI
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Members of the Saskatoon Police Service speak with men on 20th Street on Tuesday. MORGAN MODJESKI/METRO

A group advocating for aboriginal rights is concerned about racial profiling by police in Saskatoon and across the province.

A letter submitted by Kim Beaudin, president and CEO of the Aboriginal Affairs Coalition of Saskatchewan at Saskatoon's Board of Police Commissioners' meeting on May 14th states: "AACS has received numerous complaints concerning racial profiling in various communities throughout Saskatchewan. Many aboriginal people firmly believe that racial profiling is widely-used by the police department in Saskatoon and throughout the province.

"We believe there is concrete evidence that racial profiling is taking place in Saskatoon, since statistics clearly demonstrate the over representation of aboriginal peoples under police scrutiny."

The letter states that AACS is seeking support from the Board of Police Commissioners (BPC), to organize discussions with aboriginal peoples in the city, "in order to have greater understanding of our needs and concerns and to increase understanding by our constituency of their rights when approached by a police officer."

However, chief of the SPS, Clive Weighill said Beaudin didn't bring any concrete examples of racial profiling to the BPC meeting, adding the SPS takes the issue, "very seriously."

"In response to his letter, there is definitely an over-representation of aboriginal people in the correctional system. I don't believe that's a result of police activity," said Weighill. "I firmly believe that it stems from the unfortunate situation many of our aboriginal people face, living in poverty, poor housing, a lack of education and employment opportunity — which certainly has a correlation to crime"

He continued, "I look at this as a social issue that we're trying to deal with here, more than a criminal issue."

Weighill said the SPS is willing to work with the AACS to address the allegations.

"Mr. Beaudin wants to do a very proactive response to this, he's not just complaining, he's bringing the problem forward and wants to work on it together. We'll meet with him, see what the real concerns are, what the validity is and I'll assure him that if there's any issues here that we have to address, that it will be taken care of."

Weighill said Beaudin told the BPC that members from aboriginal communities across the province will send similar letters to local authorities.

Follow Morgan Modjeski on Twitter @MorganModjeski

Protesters rally against immigration policy

Pirubhai Garasiya, right, at a rally in front of the Saskatchewan legislature Tuesday, wants to bring his only son to Canada but worries that may not happen now because his son doesn't have a high-skill job offer. JENNIFER GRAHAM/THE CANADIAN PRESS

A rally took place outside of the legislative building Tuesday afternoon against changes to the Saskatchewan Immigrant Nominee Program.

About 100 people gathered, including those who had driven from Saskatoon, holding signs and waving Canadian flags. NDP Leader John Nilson spoke in support of the protesters, as did Cam Broten, MLA for Saskatoon Massey Place.

"The NDP believe that to have good economic ties you also need strong social ties and that means families being involved in the picture," said Broten.

Muhammad Akhtar, 43, joined the rally because he says the policy changes directly affect his family. Only a month ago, Akhtar quit his job at a pest control research centre in Toronto to move to Regina with his wife and two children. They had heard about the family category nominee program, and had come to settle in Saskatchewan to bring over seven family members. He now feels the move was a waste of his time and money.

"We had a good job, and we came here for the family program. It's not fair. They should give us a chance to apply for our families."

Not all agreed that the changes are unfair.

"The province has a right to do what it wants," said Gurmeet Sindh, a taxi driver who had been a lawyer in India. He has no issue with the policy changes themselves, "but give us a year's notice. It has happened too quickly. Let people know that the change is coming in a year, so that they can make the decision whether or not to move to Saskatchewan."

Janshaid Akhtar, 23, says the requirement of a high-skills job offer for new family member nominees is too challenging to obtain. Many employers won't sponsor someone they've never met.

Immigration Minister Rob Norris said today that with today's technology, such as Skype and video feed, an interview with a potential employer is easier than ever.

CARRIE-MAY SIGGINS/METRO

Job offer needed

SINP used to allow unlimited applications for family members for residents who had been in the province for a year or more. The recent changes to SINP include:

- Family category nominees will now require a job offer.
- Families will be limited to supporting one application per household until the principal applicant and their family members have successfully settled in Saskatchewan.

Slacklining tip-toes into province's parks

Sports. Alternative activities like long-boarding, roller derby have long been popular in Saskatchewan

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With the onset of spring weather, outdoor enthusiasts may have noticed a quirky site in many parks and recreational sites across the province.

Slacklining, the sport that entails bouncing across a thin piece of nylon strung between two trees, has been turning heads of late. And like the technique that embodies the sport, slacklining has subtly tip-toed onto the mainstream scene.

A one-inch-wide nylon line is used with a four-to-one carabineer (climbing clips) system, which creates a pulley that allows for tension control of the line and an elastic-like feel.

Often likened to tight-rope walking, slacklining is actually quite distinct compared to its circus cousin. Although both sports encompass treading across a thin rope or line from above ground, slacklining is unique in that the line is not nearly as rigid as a tight rope, allowing for more mobility, bounciness, tricks and stunts.

Slacklining can be performed at low heights, such as in parks, or the sport can be taken to the extreme, as slackliner Andy Lewis has proven in the past when he has dangled from several hundred feet in the air. Lewis also performed at Super Bowl XLVI, where he slacklined alongside Madonna.

For Saskatonians Marcus Storey, 32, and his brother Jonathan, 28, slacklining is nothing new — they have been doing it for 10 years. While the sport may be fresh to some, slacklining has become a lifestyle for the Storeys.

Marcus Storey compares it to climbing and credits Saskatoon's climbing culture for sparking such an interest in slacklining.

"It's wild but slacklining is also a lot of people getting together in the parks. It's not overly competitive. It is competitive with two friends trying the same trick but there's no real competition behind it. Everyone's just pushing each other to be better," said Storey.

Saskatoon's Ward 6 Coun, Charlie Clark is yet another alternative-sport enthusiast who has been swept up by slacklining's infectious lure.

"It's one of those things where people gather around and watch and challenge each other," said Clark. "I've been to places with my kids and they want to try it and they have a lot of fun. It's a test. It's very simple and you just use what's already in the park to make it happen. It just creates a sense of vitality and activity, which is what parks need."

Clark mentioned that concern from citizens surfaced last year that slacklining may be damaging to park habitats and trees. But he was confident that if done responsibly, slacklining is no threat to the city's parks.

"The most important thing is that it's done in a way that protects the trees. We know there is lots of technology to make that happen, from carpet to tree-friendly equipment. It's important to look after the trees."

Jonathan Storey helps his 17-month-old daughter Emma across a slackline in Buena Vista Park in Saskatoon Tuesday. DORIAN GEIGER/METRO

MoSo Fest revving up for second instalment

Saskatoon has made a name for itself in music circles across the country — from the city's Jazz Fest to the Sheepdogs to its various indie venues, the city is home to one of Western Canada's most vibrant music scenes.

Such momentum helped launch a new musical festival known as MoSo Fest in the city. Spread across seven venues, MoSo Fest runs from June 14 to 16 and will feature 52 artists. The event has grown substantially in the last year, from when it showcased 15 Saskatchewan groups at three venues in 2011.

An abbreviation for mobile and social media, MoSo Fest will also run in conjunction with a similarly themed conference at the University of Saskatchewan.

So far, MoSo Fest's lineup includes a blend of local and nationally acclaimed musicians. Celebrated local artists like Factor and Slow Down Molasses, as well as other up-and-coming Saskatoon musicians like the Young Benjamins, Veronique Poulin and Feral Children, will perform alongside Vancouver-based Moka Only and New Brunswick's Shotgun Jimmie.

MoSo Fest co-ordinator Rich Taylor said the festival is all about getting Saskatonians excited about the wealth of musical talent in their own city.

"There's tones of local bands that are always playing in Saskatoon, and I think this a great opportunity for them to play with some national and international talent and really showcase what we have going on in Saskatoon," said Taylor.

Three-day passes to MoSo Fest are $44 and the more exclusive MoSo Passes, which grant entry to the conference and musical performances, are available for $229 on the festival's website at mosoconf.com/festival. DORIAN GEIGER/METRO

Moka Only CONTRIBUTED

Life sentence for 'monster' who killed Ontario girl

Maximum punishment. Judge has harsh words as he sends Michael Rafferty to prison for at least 25 years

Michael Rafferty maintained his innocence Tuesday in the brutal abduction, rape and killing of Victoria Stafford as the judge presiding over the case labelled him a "monster."

Rafferty apologized to the eight-year-old girl's family in court after hearing the devastating effects of her death three years ago, but staunchly denied carrying out the crimes he was convicted of Friday.

"I am guilty of many crimes and there are a lot of things I am very, very ashamed of, but these three counts I still stand firmly behind not guilty," he said.

At the same time, he admitted to being "very definitely part of why Victoria's not here today," and offered to privately reveal "all the pieces of the puzzle" to Tori's mother, Tara McDonald.

It was the first time Rafferty has openly spoken in his own defence since pleading not guilty. The 31-year-old did not take the stand during the 10-week trial, leaving only his former girlfriend and accomplice Terri-Lynne McClintic's account of what happened the day Tori was killed.

Rafferty was formally sentenced to life in prison with no chance of parole for 25 years.

In delivering the sentence, Superior Court Judge Thomas Heeney condemned Rafferty for snuffing out the life of a beautiful and innocent girl in order to gratify his "twisted and deviant desire to have sex with a child."

Heeney had delayed sentencing Rafferty to give members of Tori's family a chance to give victim-impact statements.

Earlier, the convicted killer sat in the prisoner's box and cried as he heard the words of Tori's big brother Daryn describing how his heart has been "ripped out."

Just 10 years old when Tori went missing, Daryn said it feels like the whole world is playing a sick trick on him — but it's not.

Crown attorney Stephanie Venne read Daryn's statement for him in court, and Rafferty wept as he heard Daryn's words about his fractured family and how he is lost without his baby sister.

One of the questions on the form on which victims use for their statements asks "was anything taken from you? It's obviously asking about property, but something was taken from me," Daryn wrote.

"My baby sister was taken from me and that's not something I can go buy in a store and replace."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Case file

- Victoria "Tori" Stafford vanished from her Woodstock, Ont., school on April 8, 2009.
- Her remains were found two months later in a field.
- Michael Rafferty will join Terri-Lynne McClintic, his ex-lover and partner in the crime, in being sentenced to life in prison.
- She pleaded guilty two years ago to first-degree murder.

Daryn Stafford, brother of slain Victoria Stafford, leaves court with family after his victim-impact statement was read in court at the sentencing hearing for Michael Rafferty in London, Ont., Tuesday. GEOFF ROBINS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quotable

"Not one person can say they feel the same way as me. My sister was the only person I had to talk to. Someone that felt what I felt, cried when I cried, laughed when I laughed and now I feel alone, like the world is playing a sick trick on me, but it's not. This is my reality. No more fun times, just old memories. No more I love you's, just an empty spot in my heart."

From Daryn Stafford's statement

"You have snuffed out the life of a beautiful, talented, vivacious little girl.... Only a monster could commit an act of such pure evil."

Judge Thomas Heeney

Ontario woman marries into the Jordanian royal family

Princess Basmah al Hussein, formerly of Stratford, and Prince Hamzah Al Hussein, centre, pose with King Abdullah II. HANDOUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

A barnstorming Stratford, Ont., woman with a daredevil streak and a passion for adventure has quietly become a member of Jordan's royal family.

Aerobatic pilot Basmah Hasan became Princess Basmah in January after she wed Prince Hamzah of Jordan's Hashemite royal family.

Hamzah is the son of the late King Hussein and his American-born wife, Queen Noor, and a senior officer in Jordan's armed forces. He is the half-brother of the current King, Abdullah II, and for a short time had been Crown Prince before being replaced by his nephew in 2004.

The couple met while 33-year-old Hasan was working as the chief pilot at the Royal Aero Sports Club of Jordan last year. She had blazed a trail in the skies over the Arab world by becoming the first certified aerobatic pilot and a certified glider pilot in the country.

The prince, 32, was a fixed-wing pilot trained at Britain's Royal Military Academy Sandhurst.

"She fell in love with this man, madly in love with him, they're very much in love," says sister Yasmen Hasan of Ottawa, the family's spokesperson.

Hasan had moved to Jordan in 2004, leaving her mathematics studies at the University of Western Ontario to pursue a dream of becoming a pilot. Her parents Mike and Halloul were from affluent Jordanian families, their four children were born in Canada.

Sister Yasmen calls the whole wedding "surreal," as she and her family stood alongside King Abdullah II, his wife Queen Rania, and Queen Noor for the nuptials.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Syria

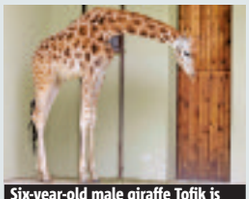
UN vehicles hit by bomb

UN observer-mission cars were damaged by a roadside bomb Tuesday, minutes after witnesses said regime forces gunned down mourners at a funeral. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Poland

Two giraffes die, male widowed

Two female giraffes at a zoo in central Poland died after vandals broke in on Saturday. Officials believe stress due to the vandalism contributed to their deaths. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Six-year-old male giraffe Tofik is left alone at the zoo in Lodz. MARIAN ZUBRZYCKI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

France

President's plane struck by lightning

Francois Hollande took over as France's president Tuesday and jetted off for talks on the debt crisis — only to have his plane struck by lightning. No one was hurt. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Toronto

Cabbie charged in boarder's death

Police have laid a second-degree murder charge against a cab driver after a skateboarder died following a collision in downtown Toronto, Monday evening. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Smile!

Fish could lead to better teeth

British scientists say the pufferfish's ability to generate new teeth every two weeks provides a model for creating a system of continuous tooth replacement in humans. MWN

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Mexico From 1.9 ¢/min	Nepal 14.9 ¢/min	Pakistan 5.9 ¢/min	Philippines 11.9 ¢/min	Poland 1.9 ¢/min	Romania 1.9 ¢/min	Russia 1.9 ¢/min
South Korea 2.9 ¢/min	Sri Lanka 9.9 ¢/min	Trinidad 4.9 ¢/min	UAE 14.9 ¢/min	Ukraine 7.9 ¢/min	United Kingdom 2.9 ¢/min	Vietnam 4.9 ¢/min

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Feds send out mixed signals for EI changes

Suitable employment. No plan to force workers to take 'any job available', human resources minister tells the Commons

The Harper government sent confusing signals Tuesday about coming changes to employment insurance rules, declaring in favour of a hard-line approach while indicating the new measures will be moderate.

Human Resources Minister Diane Finley told the House of Commons there's no plan to force jobless workers receiving EI benefits to take any job available, as the finance minister seemed to suggest the day before.

"Canadians will be expected to take jobs appropriate to their skill level in their area," she said.

That is decidedly different from Finance Minister Jim Flaherty's comments on Monday, when he said he was brought up to believe that "any job is a good job" and that the current EI rules are a disincentive to work.

Canadians won't know exactly what the government has in mind until new regulations on defining "suitable employment" are unveiled in the next few months.

And Finley agreed with Flaherty that one of the problems facing the economy is labour shortages, even though the current jobless rate of 7.3 per cent is more than a full point higher than prior to the 2008 recession.

In response to a question in the Commons, Prime Minister Stephen Harper appeared to back his finance minister.

"Let's face it, Canada is facing unprecedented shortages of labour and skills, so we need to help Canadians who are unemployed get back to work quickly." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Murdoch's media star charged

One of Rupert Murdoch's most trusted lieutenants, former U.K. tabloid editor Rebekah Brooks, seen leaving her lawyer's office in London with husband Charlie Brooks, was charged Tuesday alongside five others with conspiring to hide evidence of phone hacking. The 43-year-old Brooks, who quit as News International chief executive in July, faces three separate allegations of conspiracy to pervert the course of justice — an offence which carries a maximum sentence of life imprisonment. The charges against Brooks, her husband and four aides are the first prosecutions since police reopened inquiries 18 months ago into wrongdoing by the country's scandal-hungry press.

SEAN DEMPSEY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Facebook. Raised IPO values company at more than $100 billion US

Already expected to be the largest-ever initial public offering for an Internet company, Facebook is making its IPO even bigger.

On Tuesday, the world's largest online social network increased the planned price range for its stock to $34 to $38 U.S. per share in a filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission. That's up from its previous range of $28 to $35 US. At the upper limit of $38, the sale would raise about $12.8 billion US. The move, which values Facebook as high as $104 billion US, comes amid growing investor excitement about the offering. Analysts are comparing the frenzy surrounding Facebook's IPO to Google's in 2004, though in sheer size the latter pales in comparison.

At the same time, half of Americans think the expected value for Facebook is too high, according to a new Associated Press-CNBC poll conducted before the company raised its expected stock price on Tuesday. Only a third of those surveyed said they think Facebook's expected value is appropriate. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"This is a deal that literally must work, in that it is so high-profile."

Scott Sweet, owner of advisory firm IPOBoutique

Market Minute

DOLLAR 99.32¢ (-0.39¢)

Natural gas: $2.50 US (+6.9¢)
Dow Jones: 12,632 (-63.35)

TSX 11,343.05 (-145.48)

OIL $93.98 US (-80¢)

GOLD $1,557.10 US (-$3.90)

Survey

Finding the right employees is the challenge: CEOs

A survey of CEOs at Canadian tech start-up companies says finding and keeping employees with the right skills is their biggest challenge.

The PwC annual survey found that 26 per cent of CEOs surveyed said "managing" talent was their biggest issue, followed by 25 per cent of those surveyed who said revenue was their main concern and 18 per cent who cited funding. Poor performance and poor skills were most often cited as the reason why CEOs let staff go, the survey said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Personal computers

Software piracy totals $1.1 billion

The value of computer software piracy in Canada totalled just more than $1.1 billion last year with 40 per cent of computer users admitting they acquired software illegally, according to a study released Tuesday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Banking. Pint-sized pundit has answers to world's money woes

Canada's banking system has been the subject of international praise from economists grappling with global turmoil, but one 12-year-old girl begs to differ.

Victoria Grant of Cambridge, Ont. is earning a reputation as a financial pundit after her tirade against her homeland's borrowing practices went viral on YouTube.

Grant is already a veteran of the financial lecture circuit, but her appearance on April 27 is garnering unusual attention. A video of her address, shot at the Public Banking in America Conference in Philadelphia, has already attracted nearly 65,000 views since being posted a week ago.

For six minutes, the casually clad youngster holds forth to conference attendees on the reasons why so many of the world's countries are facing staggering debt.

Video grab of Victoria Grant. METRO

Her well-rehearsed speech, delivered in a clear, youthful voice, takes aim at Canada's modern day financial system and champions a greater role for the country's central bank. "The banks and the government have colluded to financially enslave the people of Canada," she says.

Grant lays out a brief history of the Canadian banking system, referencing obscure historical figures such as former Vancouver mayor Gerald McGeer and explaining that the Bank of Canada held primary control over government lending until the 1970s.

Starting then, she says, governments began borrowing from private banks instead at considerably higher interest rates than those available through the central bank.

The result, Grant argues, is a rapidly increasing national debt.

"If the Canadian Government needs money, they can borrow it directly from the Bank of Canada," she says. "Canadians would again prosper with real money as the foundation of our economic structure." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lawsuit. Strauss-Kahn suing NYC maid for $1M

Dominique Strauss-Kahn is suing the hotel housekeeper who accused him of sexually assaulting her, saying she seriously damaged his reputation with what he calls a bogus allegation.

The former International Monetary Fund leader and French presidential hopeful struck back at maid Nafissatou Diallo's lawsuit against him with denials and a $1 million defamation claim of his own Monday, exactly a year after she told police he tried to rape her in his Manhattan hotel suite. He says whatever happened was consensual.

He was arrested, resigned from the IMF, and spent several days behind bars and three months on house arrest before prosecutors dropped the case, saying they'd lost confidence in Diallo's trustworthiness because she'd lied about her background and changed her account of what she did right after leaving Strauss-Kahn's room. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dominique Strauss-Kahn GETTY IMAGES

Housing markets. Hot Toronto, cold Vancouver

The Canadian housing market gained momentum in April as strong sales in the Toronto offset weakness in Vancouver, the Canadian Real Estate Association said Tuesday.

April seasonally-adjusted home sales on CREA's Multiple Listing Service gained 0.8 per cent compared with March.

On a year-over-year basis, the association said there were 49,480 homes sold in April, up 11.5 per cent from 44,370 a year ago, when sales slowed following a tightening of mortgage lending rules including the elimination of 35-year amortizations came into effect in March 2011.

Two of Canada's largest markets are having opposite effects on the national average, with slowing sales and falling prices in Vancouver dragging, and soaring sales and prices in Toronto exerting upward pressure. THE CANADIAN PRESS

BlackBerry. Phones may soon be used to purchase

Within months, Canadian shoppers could have the option of paying for purchases with cash, credit or by BlackBerry.

Whether they'll actually do so is another matter.

CIBC and Rogers Communications announced a partnership Tuesday that will harness the Near Field Communication technology built into newer BlackBerrys, allowing the phones to act like a credit card at checkout.

The technology will work exclusively with CIBC credit card accounts and BlackBerrys on the Rogers network at launch, which is tentatively scheduled for "later this year."

"Some people might not carry a wallet but they'll always have their smartphone," said David Williamson, senior executive vice president of retail and business banking for CIBC.

But new research released Tuesday by Google suggested Canadians are lukewarm on the idea of using their phones to make online purchases. After speaking with 1,000 Canadian smartphone users, only 20 per cent said they had made a mobile purchase and only 16 per cent said they expected to boost their mobile shopping in the following year. THE CANADIAN PRESS

AND WE THOUGHT THIS STUFF WAS ONLY IN MOVIES

JUST SAYIN'
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca/justsaying

While the rest of us are lined up at the multiplex to watch CGI superheroes toss CGI arch-villains around in The Avengers, the real nerds have, as you might expect, already moved on.

To something called "quantum entanglement."

Quantum entanglement is weird. Somehow, subatomic particles act on each other and it doesn't matter if they're in the same room or at opposite ends of the Milky Way. As soon as you know that one is "up," you know the other is "down" and vice-versa. That's an oversimplification, but this entire column is an oversimplification. Trust me, you really don't want the unabridged version, anyway.

Quantum entanglement is so weird it blew Einstein's mind. He called it "spooky action at a distance" and thought it invalidated quantum theory until physicist John Bell proved it actually happens, thereby inventing Bell's Theorem.

Weird as it may be, quantum entanglement has fired up the imaginations of scientists everywhere who think that someday it will mean super-fast quantum computers, instant communications across vast distances, time-travel and even teleportation, as in "Beam me up, Scotty."

Beam me up, Scotty

As we speak, on science blogs everywhere, people are earnestly debating the safety hazards associated with teleportation — whether or not it's the actual Captain Kirk who arrives back on the Enterprise or a quantum copy.

As we speak, on science blogs everywhere, people are earnestly debating the safety hazards associated with teleportation — whether or not it's the actual Captain Kirk who arrives back on the Enterprise or a quantum copy. The real Kirk has died and is left behind on Regulus III — his quantum copy just doesn't know it.

Back on the real Earth, progress is being made on untangling quantum entanglement. One group of Chinese scientists has managed to entangle eight photons (particles of light), and just this week another group of Chinese scientists announced that they have managed to go where no geek has gone before, teleporting an entangled pair of quantum bits, or qubits, 97 kilometres across a lake.

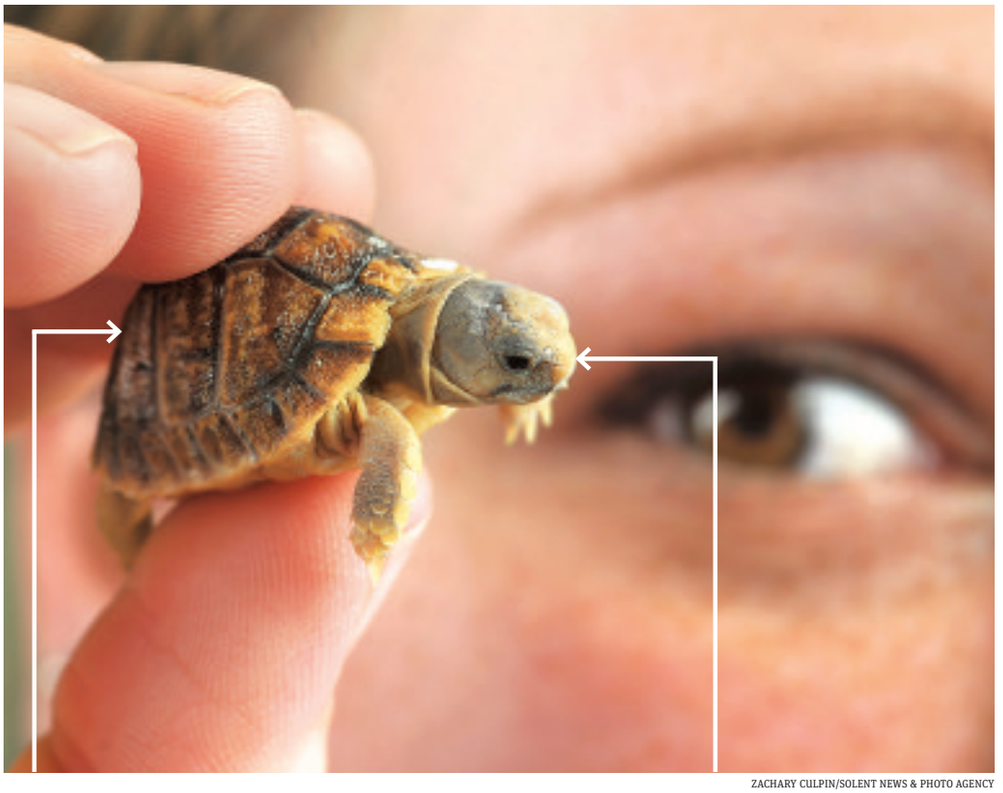
This is a big deal, as the damn qubits keep unravelling or unentangling or whatever, due to problems not encountered in theorems, such as imperfections in optics and air turbulence. It may seem like a small step for humankind (actually really small: sub-atomic), but how long could it be before we can instantly beam William Shatner from one Priceline hotel to the other?

You have to love this stuff, even if it never means you'll be able to honeymoon on Shiralea VI and be back in time for work on Monday. As you think about this idea, of real matter acting in lockstep mysteriously across time and space, you get a glimpse of just how wonderful and mysterious the universe really is.

And you don't have to pay for parking or popcorn.

Boldly going where no man has gone before. CONTRIBUTED

Walk like an Egyptian turtle



ZACHARY CULPIN/SOLENT NEWS & PHOTO AGENCY

Saving a species

Endangered tiny tortoises born

It's only the size of a coin, but this tortoise is priceless. Four hatchlings of the critically-endangered Egyptian tortoise (*Testudo kleinmanni*) have been born at Marwell Wildlife, near Winchester, Hampshire, south England. Only just over a week old, the smallest of the youngsters weighed just 3.1 grams after hatching.

METRO WORLD NEWS

In numbers

2.14

centimetres is the approximate height of the first Egyptian tortoise hatchling, the same diameter as a small coin.

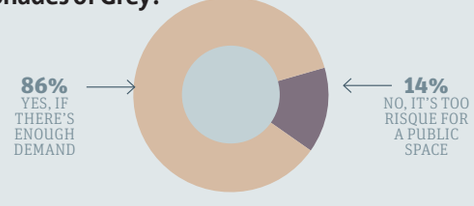
Facts and figures

- **Live long but still small.** Adults live for up to 50 years. These tortoises can grow to around 15 centimetres long and weigh 500 grams. This species of tortoise is the smallest in the northern hemisphere. The speckled padloper of South Africa is the world's smallest tortoise.
- **Egyptian by name only.** It's believed the Egyptian tortoise no longer exists in its namesake country. The species disappeared there some twenty years ago due to aridifcation of land, overgrazing and pet trade over-collecting.
- **In decline.** "Their numbers have declined severely in the last 30 years," Sherif Baha el-Din, scientific adviser at the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency, told ABC News. He said a survey in Egypt in 1994 had failed to locate any wild tortoises at all. "They are very ancient animals and haven't changed much over the years, which makes them more susceptible to problems."

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Should libraries stock the erotic tale Fifty Shades of Grey?



Twitter

@brynrk: Anyone in #yxe have a big lilac tree I could take all the flowers from? Havnt made lilac wine since that great backyard we had in mtl..

@blwolfey: Best riverbank paths #yxe #grateful #goals

@Lee__Evans: It's a beautiful day to celebrate 1-year in the #yxe and what a year it has been!

@shaunsmith1983: I'm at Earls Restaurant & Lounge (Saskatoon, SK)

@dansgoodside: Enroute to #yxe. An adventurous week awaits no doubt!

@Hnatty19: @BradJamieson Plus, secretly, I hope Regina gets dome stadium and #yxe (one day) gets NHL-ready stadium :D both cities will need facilities

metro

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2

SCENE

Awards-show accident

Michaels gets Tony Awards settlement

Bret Michaels and organizers of the Tony Awards have settled a lawsuit filed by the rocker after a 2009 incident in which he was hit in the head with a set piece and suffered injuries that contributed to a brain hemorrhage that nearly killed him.

The confidential settlement also covers Michaels' claims against CBS, which aired the show — and the mishap, which became a viral video watched by tens of millions online.

The Poison frontman blamed the network for airing the moment and claimed Tony Awards producers never warned him there would be a set change after he and his band performed Nothin' But a Good Time.

The whack initially left Michaels with a busted lip and broken nose, but also caused brain bleeding. He was hospitalized in April 2010 and doctors found he had a brain hemorrhage and he later suffered a warning stroke, which the musician says nearly killed him.

Michaels' attorney Alex Weingarten said details of the settlement would not be released. "Mr. Michaels would like to thank his fans for their continued support," he wrote in a statement.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the web

Kennedy Center to honour Ellen DeGeneres with Mark Twain award, the nation's top humour prize.

Unlikely rom-com

Dictator forces you to be entertained

The Dictator

Director. Larry Charles

Stars: Sacha Baron Cohen, Anna Faris

Although it's slightly more conventional than his breakout hit Borat, funnyman Sacha Baron Cohen's The Dictator is also only slightly less obscene and outrageous. Starring as the fascist despot of fictional Wadiya, Cohen's idiotic oppressor mistakenly gets lost in America and develops an unlikely romance with a fuzzy-underarmed feminist (Anna Faris). Certainly more plot-driven than his previous pictures, The Dictator is also more predictable. Still, with Cohen's uncanny ability to bring heart and hilarity to even the most offensive of characters, The Dictator commands its audience with an iron (and at times ironic) fist.

STEVE GOW

The Dictator listings
Galaxy Cinemas Saskatoon
No Passes Wed-Thu 7:15-9:50

While brushing his teeth, Norman pretends that he is a zombie in the children's animated feature ParaNorman. HANDOUT

The not-so-normal making of ParaNorman

Stop-motion technology. Elaborate, painstaking animation gives this children's monster movie a gritty but stunning feel

CAROLYN MORRIS
scene@metronews.ca

It's a story of a little boy who is bullied at school. It would be universal, except that Norman is able to see ghosts and zombies.

And the 3-D movie is shot using labour-intensive stop-motion technology. At a time when computer-generated imagery is creating stunning and elaborate animation, the tactile quality of ParaNorman is refreshingly unusual.

Part comedy, part horror pastiche, ParaNorman (in theatres August 17) is produced by Laika, the studio that made Coraline, a 2009 3-D stop-motion children's film, nominated for an Academy Award for best animated feature.

ParaNorman writer and co-director Chris Butler has a soft spot for the paranormal, having grown up on The Goonies, Ghostbusters and Scooby-Doo.

"I think there is something thrilling to kids about monsters. As long as you're saying that there's a monster and it can be beaten. I think that's important," he says.

The directors wanted a raw, gritty animation style. And the studio focused on real-life materials to achieve it. In its puppet and set-construction departments, fine artists, jewelers, engineers, and even chemists crafted the characters and scenes.

While the movie boasts some high-profile voices — including young stars Kodi Smit-McPhee and Anna Kendrick — much of the "acting" is shared by an invisible cast of about 25 animators who work alone, manipulating the puppets on separate sets, and sometimes shooting as few as 15 or 16 frames in an entire day (less than one second of footage). On a good day, they'll shoot several seconds.

Director duo

Sam Fell and Chris Butler (writer) teamed up to co-direct this children's film.

- **According to Butler, the original idea was "John Carpenter-meets-John Hughes."** Carpenter directed horror classic Halloween, while Hughes directed Ferris Bueller's Day Off.
- **Co-director Fell compared the film's look to William Eggleston's photography of objects like junk in a gutter, or a chainlink fence.**

Book-turned-movie, with a rare self-help twist

Chris Rock, left, and Rodrigo Santoro, right, in a scene from What to Expect When You're Expecting. HANDOUT

IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

Big-screen adaptations of books are common. This year, everything from The Lorax to The Hunger Games and even Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter are making the leap from page to stage.

Less common is the reworking of self-help books for the movies. Earlier this year, Think Like a Man, a rom-com based on Steve Harvey's bestselling advice book, was a huge hit. Now this weekend, pregnancy guide What to Expect When You're Expecting gets the all-star treatment as a comedy starring Cameron Diaz, Jennifer Lopez and Elizabeth Banks.

Self-help guides rarely get adapted into movies because they generally lack a dramatic arc. 101 Ways to Improve Your Communication Skills Instantly, for instance, doesn't offer up much in the way of exciting drama, but some filmmakers have found ways of creating compelling stories from advice books.

In 1962, when Helen Gurley Brown's book Sex and the Single Girl sold two million copies in three weeks, Hollywood came calling. The book's then-controversial premise — that women should enjoy sex in or out of wedlock — was, however, watered down into a salute to marriage, which better suited the tone of the times than the book's feminist message.

Years later, both Sex and the City and Renée Zellweger's sex farce Down with Love both looked to the book for inspiration. Not all self-help book adaptations are successful, however. One review for Let's Go To Prison, based on an advice book by Jim Hogshire, said, "89 minutes that drag on like, well, a prison sentence," while He's Just Not That Into You was likened to "reliving your 20s, minus the fun."

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Chris Hemsworth

Baby name came easy for Chris Hemsworth and his wife

What's in a name? Well, for Chris Hemsworth's newborn daughter, India, it simply pleased the parents.

"It was just a name we liked," Hemsworth explains to E! News. "I always kind of liked Indy or Indiana for a boy, and she liked India. We sort of went, 'Oh, well, whether it's a boy or girl, that will decide it.' It just seemed to fit." The 28-year-old Avengers star is equally pleased with finally being a father. "I've wanted to have kids for a long time, and here it is, and I couldn't be happier."

Quoted

"I've wanted to have kids for a long time, and here it is, and I couldn't be happier."

Chris Hemsworth

Jessica Alba

Jessica Alba didn't always like the spotlight

While Jessica Alba is comfortable with her public image now, it wasn't always so easy, she admits — especially back in her Dark Angel days.

"I had a show that premiered when I was 19. And right away, everyone formed a strong opinion about me because of the way I was marketed. I was supposed to be sexy, this tough action girl. That's what people expected," she tells Marie Claire magazine. "I felt like I was being objectified, and it made me uncomfortable. I wanted to be chic and elegant!"

The Word

Maybe Jay-Z should run for President

THE WORD
Monica Weymouth
scene@metronews.ca

When Jay-Z went on CNN yesterday and was asked about Obama's recent public support of gay marriage, he didn't necessarily say anything groundbreaking.

We're all humans, we're wasting our time talking about this, love happens: you've heard this before.

But, that said, everything sounds so much cooler — so obviously a good idea — when it's delivered with a little Jay-Z swagger. This guy should consider running for office — or calling us:

"I've always thought it as something that was still holding the country back. What people do in their own homes is their business."

Of course it is. I bet your home is nice. It seems like it would smell really nice and have good snacks. Swoon.

"You can choose to love whoever you love."

Like you, for instance. I mean, if Beyonce's cool with it. She's probably not. Forget this part happened.

"It's really not about votes, it's about people. Whether it costs (Obama) votes or not, I think it's the right thing to do as a human being."

We're humans! We love being human. Go humans.

Charlize Theron ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Charlize Theron over the moon about becoming a mom

Charlize Theron admits that everything in her life has changed since adopting a baby boy, Jackson, in March.

"It's strangely everything that you've hoped for and it feels so right. I don't know how else to say it," Theron tells E! News.

"I feel like I can't remember anything prior to him. I feel like it was always just meant to be what it is."

John Travolta

Private Travolta trial set to be 'one hell of a fight'

While John Travolta's second accuser won't be facing the star in a public trial, the lawyer representing him doesn't want people to think they won't be putting up a fight. "I want a full trial with a private judge," Okorie Okorocha tells People magazine in response to reports the case may be heading into mediation. "There is no mediation. There'll never be a settlement. I want privacy for sex crime victims. It looks like (Travolta's attorney Marty Singer) wants one hell of a fight."

Twitter

@iamrashidajones
Working up the courage to use Twitter for my idle musings and glib observations. I feel like the sober late-arriver at a raging party.

@rustyrockets
Now I must do kundalini yoga to install a new consciousness in the ol' brain box. Sat Nam (yes, it is a bit like sat-nav).

@katyperry
all I need in this life of sin is me and my kitten.

@SethMacFarlane
Whenever I hear Katy Perry's "Firework", I like to picture an elderly Jewish man covering his ears and saying, "Aaa, please don't yell!"

3 LIFE

Travel in brief

Skrillex to lead train tour

Grammy-winning dubstep DJ Skrillex will be exploring a different kind of track this summer as he leads a group of electronic artists on a tour through Canada on a private passenger train. The tour will also feature performances by buzzy Montreal artist Grimes, Philadelphia DJ Diplo and Colorado's Pretty Lights. The cross-country trek will kick off on July 13 in Toronto with stops in Ottawa, Montreal, Winnipeg, Edmonton and Vancouver. The idea was inspired in part by the famous Festival Express tour in the '70s, which saw the likes of Janis Joplin, the Grateful Dead and the Band traverse a similar route across the country. Skrillex — whose real name is Sonny Moore — won three Grammys this past February, including best dance recording. "We were really inspired when Mumford and Sons and Edward Sharpe and those guys did a train tour," Moore said in a release. "We wanted to do it as well and share this music with people across Canada. Just to do it and have fun."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

On the web

New photo exhibition reveals the early days of Bono and U2, documenting the band's gritty origins in 1970s Dublin

5 top boutique hotels in Mexico

Want a beach vacation but can't stand the thought of staying at a mega-resort? In Mexico, you don't have to. Getting Canadians away from crowded beaches and watered-down fruity drinks is Sylvie Laitre's specialty. The director of Mexico Boutique Hotels lives in Puerto Vallarta and has spent 15 years travelling the country looking for hidden gems that offer privacy and tranquility. Here are her Top 5 picks:

DAWN CUTHBERTSON
life@metronews.ca

1 Casa de Mita

Location: Punta de Mita, a 45-minute drive from the Puerto Vallarta airport.

Description: With just eight rooms on the property, guests who visit this all-inclusive beachfront property rave about the chef's creations and attentive staff. Each room has a private balcony facing the Pacific Ocean and there are endless activities to enjoy, from getting a massage to playing a round of golf.

Price: $565-$895 per night.

Travel tip: This adults-only resort is so popular it has repeat guests, so book early.

2 Playa Escondida

Location: Sayulita, a one-hour drive from the Puerto Vallarta airport.

Description: Peaceful, quirky and secluded. Those are the words most people who've stayed here use to describe the resort — almost all also include 'amazing'. Lush with vegetation, this property caters to adventurous Canadians who like the idea of staying in the jungle and having spectacular beach and ocean views.

Price: $150-$400 per night.

Travel tip: The showers for some rooms are outside, but still private, and most people say it just adds to the charm of the property.

3 Capella Ixtapa

Location: A 20-minute drive from the Ixtapa-Zihuatanejo airport.

Description:
Nestled on the side of a rocky cliff overlooking the Pacific Ocean, this 59-suite property is known for its stunning architecture. Guests love that there's a private plunge pool in every room. Trip Advisor reviewers rank it number one out of 25 hotels in Ixtapa.

Price: $275-1,350 per night

Travel tip: This property does not have a beach to laze on all day, but there are two pools, including one that's salt-water.

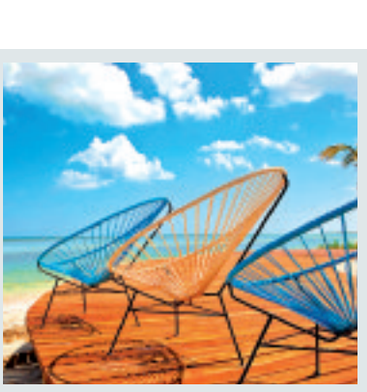
4 Viceroy Riviera Maya

Location: Playa Xcalacoco, about 20 minutes from Playa del Carmen. Fly into Cancun.

Description: Popular among honeymooners and couples, this property is luxurious, romantic and the perfect place to celebrate a major milestone. Guests rave about the spa, where you can get an ancient Mayan massage or a body treatment where hibiscus flowers are used to encourage radiance and energy back into your skin.

Price: $605-$2,720 per night.

Travel Tip: Most reviewers on Trip Advisor find the food and wine to be expensive. Be prepared to splurge.



5 Villas Flamingos

Location: Isla Holbox, about three hours north of the Cancun airport.

Description: This funky eco-friendly resort is the exact antithesis of the debauchery that goes on in Cancun. A property that caters to families and couples, guests can stay in suites, a bungalow or rent the island's only beach house. The laid-back atmosphere encourages relaxation and you can walk almost anywhere barefoot.

Price: $107-$497 per night. Includes breakfast for two.

Travel tip: This property is one of a few in the world that can take you swimming with whale sharks.

We would eat anything this man served us. DAVID LOFTUS

Jamie Oliver wants you

On May 19, the famous British chef asks you to join his healthy-eating crusade, a.k.a. Food Revolution Day
'I'm not anti-burger or anti-pizza. I'm anti- shit food,' he says

ROMINA MCGUINNESS
Metro World News

Chef Jamie Oliver has devoted his career to fighting unhealthy eating — and you can see why: Global obesity has more than doubled since 1980. Each year, 2.8 million adults around the world die as a result of being overweight.

On Saturday May 19, the British TV star launches his latest effort, Food Revolution Day, a global campaign that asks you to think about eating right: host a food event serving organic foods, or a locally-sourced dinner party, or start a campaign at work or school.

Check out foodrevolutionday.com for more ideas and events in your city.

Here's Oliver on why you should join the movement:

The obesity crisis: How did we end up here?

The main issue is the Western diet: it's single-handedly more responsible for damage to global health than anything else. In so many Western countries, we have three generations of people who were never taught how to cook at home.

Both parents were at work, food education at school is so shit, they can't learn there. I've been in houses where kids only hydrate on fizzy drinks and show no interest in tap water.

And technology, freezing techniques and processed foods have only made things worse.

Will the world ever get healthy again?

I actually think that multinationals and fast-food companies are the best people to lead the change. If they chose to get behind healthy eating, they would do a better job than any other government or individual.

If you thought the oil and petrol industry was complicated and causing wars, think again. The food industry is on another level. The problem is the corruption between food industries and governments.

We need to address smaller issues like chicken farming or pink slime. Stop these products from ever being registered. How f—ing dare they?

And how will the Food Revolution Day help?

I'm not anti-burger or anti-pizza; I'm anti- shit food. With Food Revolution Day, I'm trying to get as many people as possible to stir the pot.

We all need to become a little fussier about what we put in our gobs [mouths]. When you put something in your mouth, it's a very personal thing that affects you straight away.

You've already tried to change North American food habits once. What makes you think that they will listen to you this time?

I expect nothing. People may not want me around but I don't think I've ever wasted my time. I don't give a shit if people think I'm crazy. North America is difficult, as it's where a lot of the unhealthy foods and brands are created. It's the eye of the storm. Most countries eventually follow their trends, whether they like it or not.

Ultimately, though, do you think most Americans would rather go to McDonald's than go to the gym?

Things need to change otherwise the whole country will come to a standstill. People won't be mobile. It's a question of national security.

How can you train an army if the nation is obese? Progress will happen. They have no choice.

Global obesity epidemic

2.8M

Each year, 2.8 million adults around the world die as a result of being overweight.

Full of bright vegetables and bold flavour, this healthy chili is worth the chopping

This is a lovely alternative to traditional chili con carne. It's packed with good stuff so is a great choice for vegetarians and meat-eaters alike.

To prepare the chili:

1. Preheat the oven to 200˚C/ 400˚F.

2. Peel the sweet potatoes and cut into bite-sized chunks. Sprinkle with a pinch each of cayenne, cumin and cinnamon, drizzle with olive oil and scatter with a pinch of salt and pepper. Toss to coat then put them on a baking tray.

3. Peel and roughly chop the onion. Halve, de-seed and roughly chop the peppers. Pick the coriander leaves and put aside, finely chop the stalks. De-seed and finely chop the chilies. Peel and finely chop the garlic.

To cook your chili:

4. Put the tray of sweet potato in the hot oven to cook for 40 minutes until soft and golden.

5. Put a large pan on a medium-high heat and add a couple lugs of olive oil. Add the onion, peppers and garlic and cook for 5 minutes. Add the coriander stalks, chili and spices and cook for another 5 to 10 minutes, stirring every couple of minutes.

6. Drain the cans of beans, then tip them into the pan with the tinned tomatoes. Stir well and bring to the boil, then reduce to a medium-low heat and leave to tick away for 25 to 30 minutes. Keep an eye on it, and add a splash of water if it gets a bit thick.

To serve your chili:

7. Get the roasted sweet potato out of the oven and stir it through your chili with most of the coriander leaves. Taste and season with sea salt and freshly ground black pepper, if needed.

8. Scatter the remaining leaves over the top, and serve with some sour cream, guacamole and rice or tortillas.

JAMIEOLIVER.COM/JAMIES-MINISTRY-OF-FOOD

Jamie Oliver's Vegetarian Chili is a bowl of savoury healthy goodness MATT RUSSELL

Ingredients

What you'll need:

- **2 medium-sized sweet potatoes.** (around 500g)
- **1 level teaspoon cayenne pepper.** Plus extra for sprinkling
- **1 heaped teaspoon ground cumin.** (Plus extra for sprinkling)
- **1 level teaspoon ground cinnamon.** (Plus extra for sprinkling)
- **Olive oil**
- **Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper**
- **1 onion**
- **1 red pepper**
- **1 yellow pepper**
- **A bunch of fresh coriander**
- **1 red chili**
- **1 green chili**
- **2 cloves of garlic**
- **1 yellow pepper**
- **2 x 400g tins beans.** Try kidney, chickpea, pinto, cannellini
- **2 x 400g tins chopped tomatoes**

The new bilingualism: computer-speak

TalentEgg. Sometimes getting that job means knowing how the speak the language — even HTML

LAUREN STEIN
talentegg.ca

Being proficient with computer languages is one trait many employers are looking for. ISTOCK

Earlier this year, I learned that I was shortlisted for a job alongside one other candidate.

I'd submitted a portfolio, interviewed with my potential supervisor, wrote a set of sample pieces, and was (obviously) really eager to learn whether or not I'd be making the cut.

Lucky for me, I had an inside source to scoop who my competition was and why we were the two left standing. What I wasn't expecting was to discover that our strengths and weaknesses both had to do with our proficiency with language: the other candidate's written French was much more polished than mine, but I'd demonstrated my understanding of HTML and CSS.

Fast-forwarding a tad, you should know that neither of us got the job as the company underwent a bit of a hiring freeze (it happens). But I was still intrigued by my competition's lack of knowledge of markup languages. How is it, considering how prevalent the Internet and technology are in most fields nowadays, that some still don't know how to code?

Sure, it's as easy now as it ever was to fully customize your Tumblr, Blogger or Twitter page with a simple click or drag and drop. A decade ago, we were doing it with GeoCities and LiveJournal. Except it gets tiresome seeing the same layout over and over again — with all the blogs and personal websites out there, standing out is key. In this day and age, design is important.

LAUREN STEIN IS A RECENT GRADUATE OF THE CREATIVE WRITING PROGRAM AT CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY. TALENTEGG.CA IS CANADA'S LEADING JOB SITE AND ONLINE CAREER RESOURCE FOR COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND RECENT GRADUATES.

Online resources

The Internet is crawling with resources for beginner code-monkeys.

- **Back to basics.** The first site I ever looked to for HTML how-to was Lissa Explains. Don't let the eye-popping fluorescent-themed colour scheme fool you — it's extremely useful. If you've never encountered anything code-related before, this site is fantastic because it's meant for kids.
- **Instant gratification.** It works lesson-by-lesson and when you understand key concepts, it gives you badges and points. Sounds kind of fun, no?
- **The experts.** Mozilla, the fine folks behind Firefox, have created the Mozilla Developer Network, a hub that's full of tools and articles on web development There's also a lot more than just HTML and CSS.

Student voices

Casting a 'net' to reel in a job

Shannon Gallagher. CONTRIBUTED

Shannon Gallagher
Graduate, BMOS, Organizational and Human Resources
University of Western Ontario
TalentEgg.ca

I found my current employer, a digital agency called rtraction, through networking on Twitter. I learned about the company and people through their extensive use of Twitter and had interacted with several of them personally before approaching them for the opportunity to work as a marketing intern.

There wasn't an existing position or opening, but they had me in to chat and decided that they would like to have me on the team, and that was how the marketing internship position was created.

Employers: please interact with students and recent grads on social media sites! It's where we are, and it's where we look for employers (depending on the industry).

There is huge potential to interest future (and current) employees, solicit feedback, and grow/maintain a positive corporate image.

Google, Fairmont, and RIM are perfect examples of companies doing it, and doing it well.

I finished up my degree last year and started my search for a full-time position in marketing (particularly social media marketing) but ended up staying on with rtraction as a digital marketing strategist.

TALENTEGG.CA IS CANADA'S LEADING JOB SITE AND ONLINE CAREER RESOURCE FOR COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND RECENT GRADUATES.

Taking communications into social-media

JUSTINE ABIGAIL YU
talentegg.ca

Just a few years ago, my job didn't even exist. Now, some 79 per cent of corporations have jumped on the bandwagon, hiring social-media and community managers to drive their online efforts. The growth is astounding and it's a role that's here to stay.

I've worked in social media for the past three years now and it's been an incredibly rewarding experience. It's the perfect job if you're someone who enjoys interacting with people (remember, it is 'social' media!) and thrives on creativity, risk and experimentation.

But what are employers looking for when hiring someone to fill this role? Hint: they're not looking for someone who can stare at their Facebook feed all day.

Adaptability and versatility
Online and social media is one of the most — if not the most — fast-paced and booming industries. New technologies and tools emerge and fall everyday. Social media and community managers must be quick to adapt to new trends and understand how to apply them to a company's advantage.

More than that, they often have to be comfortable wearing different hats and juggling different skills. You must be a researcher, a communicator, a writer, an event-planner … all at the same time.

Solid communications skills
Well, this is a bit obvious. After all, a career in social media is ultimately a career in communications. But I can't stress enough how essential writing and verbal skills are. Social media come in different forms — blog posts, videos, Twitter, you name it … and you need to be the Jack (or Jill) of all communication trades.

Flexibility and constant connection
Conversations don't stop the minute you walk out of the office. The thing about the online world is that it operates 24/7 and conversations will happen with or without you. Your hours will be a little different from the usual nine-to-five grind because people are always talking, tweeting, uploading videos and photos, and updating their Facebook status. Digital does not stop.

Enthusiasm, energy and passion
You are the online voice and face for the company. You need to exude passion for whatever product or service you are representing. You need to understand the industry lingo, empathize with the company's community, and just straight-up live and breathe that brand. Being the resident evangelist for an organization/cause/brand that you do believe in is a great feeling. Just remember, passion is never overrated and it sure as hell can't be forced.

JUSTINE ABIGAIL YU IS A COMMUNICATIONS PROFESSIONAL BY DAY AND A FREELANCE WRITER BY NIGHT. TALENTEGG.CA IS CANADA'S LEADING JOB SITE AND ONLINE CAREER RESOURCE FOR COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND RECENT GRADUATES.

Twitter

@TalentEgg
What are the must-have Internet & social media skills for new grads?

@samdunsiger
Knowledge of channels, communication & messaging skills.

@desiraeo
Good judgement!

@MaddieLeznoff
Proper spelling and grammar!

@ElissaRiddell
be able to quickly understand the value propositions of internet and social media tools, and whether they are useful to the firm.

@Recruit_Campus
The ability to filter: what's appropriate to post and what is not!

NBA

Pacers steal one in Miami

David West scored 16 points and grabbed 10 rebounds, George Hill added 15 and the Indiana Pacers took home-court advantage away from Miami by beating the Heat, 78-75, in Game 2 of the teams' Eastern Conference semifinal series Tuesday night.

LeBron James scored 28 points for Miami and Dwyane Wade finished with 24, but both missed big chances for the Heat late. James missed two free throws with 54.3 seconds left and Miami down one, and Wade was short on a layup that would have tied the game with 16 seconds remaining.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cycling

Hesjedal loses lead at Giro

Spanish rider Joaquin Rodriguez took the overall lead in the Giro d'Italia from Canadian Ryder Hesjedal on Tuesday after winning the 10th stage in a sprint finish.

Hesjedal was only six seconds behind in sixth place, but Rodriguez moved ahead of him thanks to a 20-second time bonus for the stage victory.

"Hats off to Purito," Hesjedal said in an email to The Canadian Press, referring to Rodriguez' nickname. "His team was incredibly strong and they took the initiative riding all day.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Joaquin Rodriguez gets a kiss after the 10 stage on Tuesday.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Goaltender Jonathan Quick defends his net as his Kings teammate Slave Voynov tracks Phoenix's Martin Hanzal on Tuesday in Glendale, Ariz.
CHRISTIAN PETERSEN/GETTY IMAGES

Kings on the Quick road to cup finals

NHL. Los Angeles dominant again in Phoenix

Jeff Carter scored three goals, Jonathan Quick stopped 24 shots and the Los Angeles Kings matched an NHL record with their seventh straight road playoff victory, beating the Phoenix Coyotes 4-0 Tuesday night to take control of Western Conference final.

Los Angeles dominated the opener and was even better in Game 2, withstanding Phoenix's initial push and string of penalties for a 2-0 series lead.

Dwight King scored his third goal in two games and Quick tied a team record with his third career playoff shutout to give the Kings a dominating lead heading into Game 3 Thursday night in Los Angeles.

The Kings have won nine straight road playoff games in two seasons, matching the NHL record set by the New York Islanders from 1982-83.

The Islanders won the Stanley Cup both of those years.

Quick matched Felix Potvin's team record for playoff shutouts and Carter finished off his first career playoff hat trick in the third period, securing the Kings' seventh straight win overall.

The Coyotes played better early and fell apart late, becoming frustrated after being unable to contain the more-skilled Kings.

Game 2

Kings	Coyotes
4	0

Phoenix was hit with a string of penalties starting late in the second period, including a game misconduct to captain Shane Doan for boarding Kings centre Trevor Lewis. Martin Hanzal also received one for boarding Dustin Brown in the third period and the Coyotes had 13 penalties for 56 minutes — most coming after the final five minutes of the second period.

The Kings won the opener 4-2 by outplaying and outhustling Phoenix.

Knowing Phoenix's makeup, the Kings figured to get more of a pushback in Game 2.

And the Coyotes were much more aggressive early, winning some of the individual battles they lost in Game 1 while creating some decent scoring chances.

Even with all of Phoenix's hard work and a couple of line changes by coach Dave Tippett, the Kings still managed to score first. King got it, redirecting a shot by Drew Doughty that beat Mike Smith stick side late in the period. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canada ready to take medal round plunge

Canada's Ryan O'Reilly scores on Belarus' Dmitri Milchakov on Tuesday in Helsinki. HEIKKI SAUKKOMAA/LEHTIKUVA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

So far, so good.

Canada set itself up with the best possible path into the medal round at the IIHF world hockey championship after clinching top spot in the Helsinki pool with a 5-1 victory over Belarus on Tuesday. It was an important step for a team that desperately wants to avoid a third straight early exit at the tournament.

"Our mindset changes now and we have to win the quarter-finals," said forward Jordan Eberle. "That's kind of been the back-breaker for us the last two years. We've played well in the pool games but we haven't brought it in the quarter-finals.

Quoted

"You don't get a trophy for winning the pool. It all counts in the games to come."

Jordan Eberle

"This is an important game for us."

Canada has drawn a tough opponent for Thursday's do-or-die game in Slovakia, which won five straight games to finish the round robin. As a result, the Slovaks secured a spot in the 2014 Olympic tournament and now believe they have what it takes to win a medal here.

However, by winning its pool Canada, guaranteed that it won't see the powerhouse Russians before the gold-medal final.

Russia has beaten the Canadians four straight years at the tournament — eliminating them in the quarter-finals in 2010 and 2011 and edging them for gold in 2008 and 2009 — and has brought another Olympic-calibre team here. THE CANADIAN PRESS

4 SPORTS

Quoted

"You're going to go down! You're going to go down! You're going to go down!"

Brian McNamee, Roger Clemens' former strength coach, told Clemens' perjury trial that's what his wife, Eileen, said in the "middle of a battle royale" argument. His wife worried McNamee would become the fall guy at Clemens' expense, McNamee testified. Clemens, the former baseball great, is accused of lying when he told Congress in 2008 that he had never used steroids or HGH.

NBA

Fresh Spurs grab series lead

Tim Duncan had 26 points and 10 rebounds and the San Antonio Spurs, recharged after a weeklong layoff, wore down the busy Los Angeles Clippers to win Game 1 of their Western Conference semifinals series, 108-92 on Tuesday night. Playing for the sixth time in 11 days, the Clippers gave San Antonio its toughest first half of the playoffs before fading fast. And unlike their stunning Game 1 comeback at Memphis in the first round, they didn't have the wind this time.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the web

The Staples Center in Los Angeles will easily be the busiest building in pro sports later this week as it hosts six playoff games in four days. Scan the code to find out how officials plan to solve the Kings, Lakers, Clippers puzzle.

5 DRIVE

Last-gen RDX was flexible, fun to drive

Second Gear.
2007 to 2012
Acura RDX

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
Drive@metronews.ca

Sporty, agile and packing Acura's patented SH-AWD system, the RDX was a premium compact crossover sport ute that was heavy on the "sport." Competing with the Audi Q5, Infiniti EX and others, the RDX boasted five-passenger seating, a flexible cabin and a laundry-list of must-have gadgets.

With suspension and chassis calibrations intended for driving pleasure over all-out comfort, the RDX was a machine that intended to connect with the enthusiast.

What Owners Like

Performance, handling, style and overall value were highly rated by Acura RDX owners. Flexible, all-season utility and confident traction in virtually every situation were also noted.

What Owners Dislike

Small rear seats, fuel mileage and a rough ride on some surfaces were the most common complaints of the RDX.

On the Web

Scan code for more car reviews and news

Common Issues

The RDX should be inspected for signs of leakage from the transmission, torque converter seal and rear differential.

Since the RDX is equipped with a turbocharger, shoppers are advised to check for any signs of smoke, either at start-up or after a drive. This could indicate that the turbocharger is wearing out. Note that this component may be pricey to replace, but should last the life of the vehicle if frequent oil changes are carried out. Note that any transmission-related issues with jerkiness, rough shifting or "slippage" could be caused by a poorly-charged battery or bad sensor.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Engine

All models got a 2.3-litre VTEC Turbo four-cylinder engine producing 240 horsepower and 260 lb.-ft of torque. A paddle-shiftable five-speed automatic was standard.

Verdict

The RDX looks like a fairly reliable used crossover buy that should readily impress active, family-minded driving enthusiasts. A dealer-serviced model with a mechanical thumbs-up is your safest bet.

Test drive Wheels.ca on your tablet.

ENJOY THE RIDE. IT'S EASY AND FREE.
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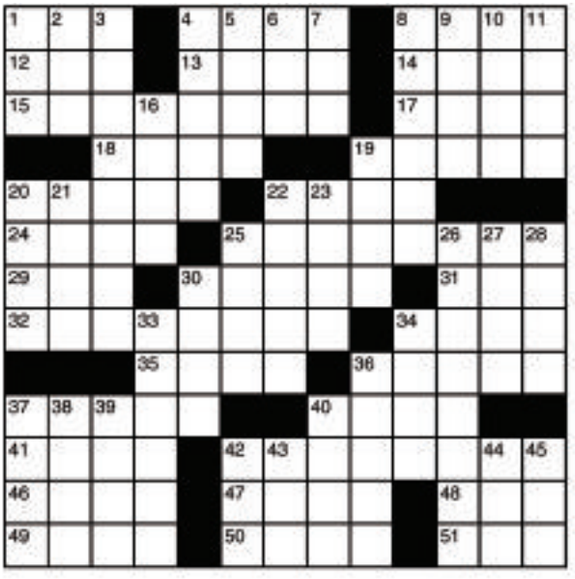
Crossword

Across

1 Computer acronym
4 Roe provider
8 Admitting air
12 Lawyers' org.
13 Lyricist's subject
14 Humdinger
15 Hat maker
17 Handle
18 Pack of cards
19 Zoo structures
20 Enthusiast, and then some
22 Centrifuge insert
24 Protuberance
25 Easy chair
29 Work with
30 Spot on TV?
31 Commotion
32 "Ich bin ein —"
34 Goblet feature
35 Coop collection
36 Down East
37 Toes' woes
40 Picasso contemporary
41 Settled down
42 Youngman joke
46 Stereo set
47 Jack Benny interjection
48 Shock partner
49 Yule refrain
50 Oodles
51 Guided

Down

1 Aries
2 Sapporo sash
3 Seasickness
4 Glossy
5 Gridlock noise
6 "Hail, Caesar!"
7 Aachen article
8 Acid neutralizer
9 Freud cohort
10 Shaving-cream additive
11 Abrades
16 Bound
19 Ump's announcement
20 Blooper
21 Stratagem
22 Irritates
23 Torte topper
25 Pugilists' arena
26 Countrywide
27 Paradise
28 Appian Way terminus
30 Pen pals?
33 Soup legume
34 Rani's garment
36 Factories
37 Songwriter Sammy
38 Medley
39 Abundant
40 Dissolve
42 Pussycat's partner
43 Ultra-modernist
44 Mate of 1-Down
45 Roulette bet



Sudoku

3			1		2			7
	6		3		7		9	
		7				8		
		3	6		5	1		
7								9
		2	4		9	5		
		5				3		
	7		5		6		4	
9			2		8			1

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's Sudoku

8	1	4	6	5	7	9	2	3
7	5	9	3	2	4	1	8	6
3	6	2	1	8	9	5	7	4
5	9	8	7	3	2	6	4	1
4	3	6	9	1	8	7	5	2
1	2	7	5	4	6	8	3	9
6	4	1	2	7	5	3	9	8
2	7	3	8	9	1	4	6	5
9	8	5	4	6	3	2	1	7

Yesterday's Crossword

Cryptoquip

How to play

This is a substitution cipher where one letter stands for another. Eg: If X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle.

ZP RPPWXZMRXQ GWMWT,
R RGZKRPQ AWL'J PQQJ K
TQZM QPKRPQ-LRMA.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SINCE MY FATHER REALLY LOVES LICKING ENVELOPES, PEOPLE OFTEN LIKE TO CALL HIM A SEALING FAN.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: P equals N

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Horoscope

Aries | March 21 - April 20. No matter how big the challenge, you will emerge victorious.

Taurus | April 21 - May 21. Whatever you turn your hand to today will work out better than you expected.

Gemini | May 22 - June 20. Someone who does not want to see you succeed will try to talk you out of attempting something that could boost your reputation. Don't let them.

Cancer | June 21 - July 22. This is going to be a busy day for you – you will be rushing here, there and everywhere trying to get it all done. Set yourself a time deadline.

Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22. You may have to get tough with someone who has let you down, but don't go too far and say things that might make it difficult for you to work together in future.

Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22. You will pull out all the stops to be the biggest and the best at what you do.

Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22. You can move either this way or that way today. But it has to be one or the other.

Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21. A task you have to complete will be easier than you expected.

Sagittarius | Nov. 22 - Dec. 21. You won't lack for advice today – everyone wants to tell you what you should be doing – but if you are smart you will ignore it all and listen only to your own inner voice.

Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan 20. Pluto in your sign is energized by Mars today, which means you can't lose.

Aquarius | Jan. 21 - Feb 18. Some people will be shocked by how far you are prepared to go to get what you desire over the next 24 hours, but they shouldn't be.

Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20. Don't sit at home watching the world through your window or, worse, your television screen.

SALLY BROMPTON

Caption Contest

"I wish mom would stop with the Princess Leia fantasy."
John

LEE JIN-MAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Win!

You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

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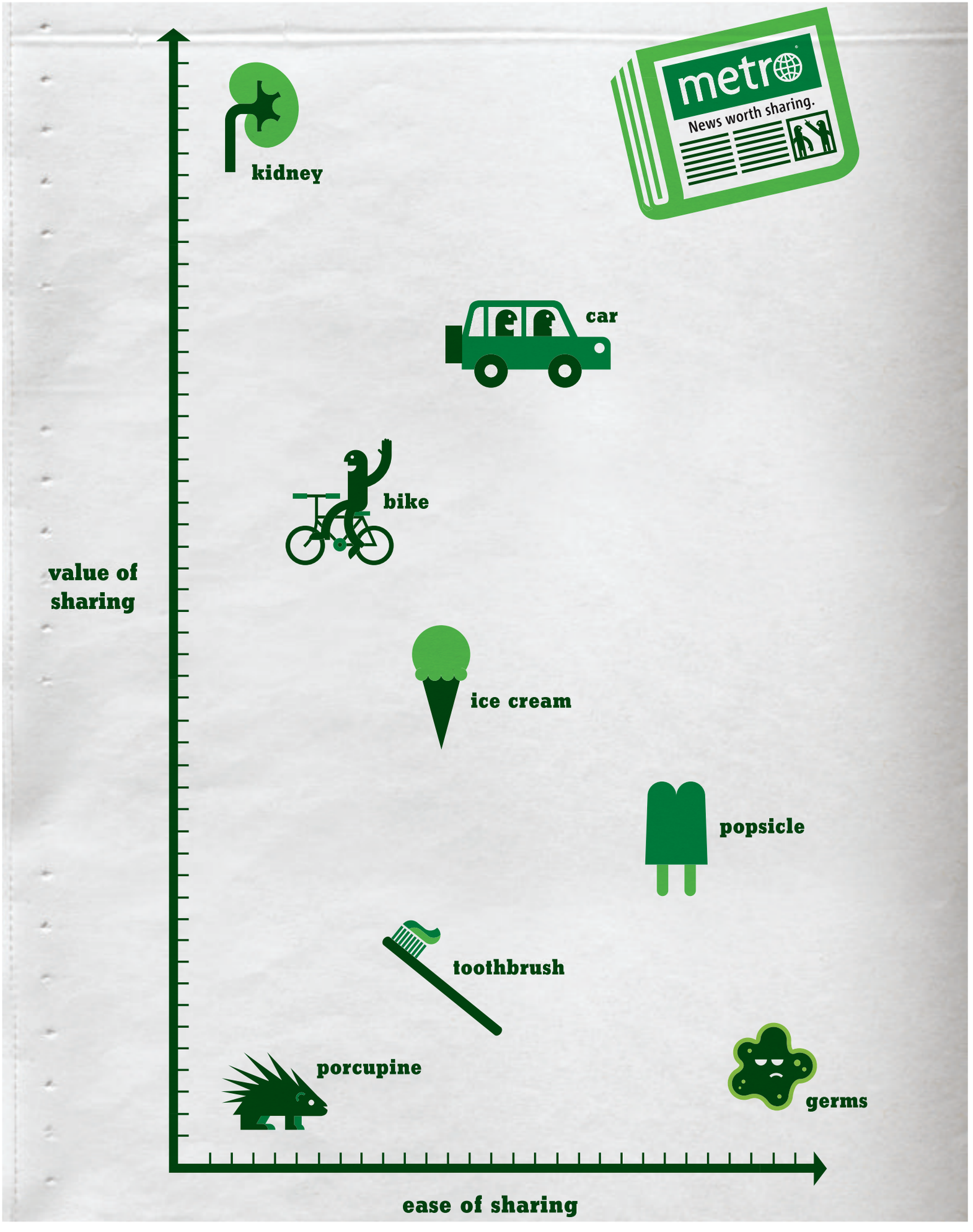
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